

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in this application, with 1-4, 14, 18, 22, 26 and 35 being independent. Claims 14-25 have been withdrawn from consideration and claims 26-43, which correspond to the elected invention, have been added. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-8 and 11-13 have been rejected as being anticipated by Shi, U.S. Patent No. 5,817,431.

With respect to claim 1 and its dependent claims, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Shi does not describe or suggest "a first concentration change region in which the proportion of the electron transporting material increases gradually until a ratio between the hole transporting material and the electron transporting material becomes $x : y$ (where x and y are positive constants)," as recited in claim 1. Even assuming for sake of argument that Shi's emitter 20 constitutes the mixture region recited in claim 1, Shi nowhere describes or suggests locating a first concentration change region such as is recited in claim 1 between the hole transporting layer 18 and the emitter 20. Accordingly, for at least this reason, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Independent claims 2-4 also recite a first concentration change region such as is recited in claim 1. Accordingly, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-4 and their dependent claims for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 9 and 10, which depend from claims 1-4, have been rejected as being obvious over Shi. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claims.

Newly-added independent claims 26 and 35 also recite a first concentration change region such as is recited in claim 1. Accordingly, applicant requests allowance of claims 26-43 for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.